

Message Text

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44

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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

USUN NEW YORK 1967

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUS JAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10230

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JA, NK, NS, CH, UR, US

SUBJ: FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER KIMURA'S VIEWS ON KOREAN PENINSULA
STABILITY

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY. FORMER FONMIN KIMURA SET FORTH TO EMBOFF JULY 25 HIS VIEW
OF KOREAN PENINSULA SECURITY. KIMURA EMPHASIZED THAT, WHILE
ROK SECURITY IS ESSENTIAL TO JAPANESE SECURITY, IT MUST BE VIEWED
IN BROADER CONTEXT OF PEACE AND STABILITY ON ENTIRE KOREAN
PENINSULA. IN ESSENCE, HE CALLED FOR JOINT US-GOJ RESTRAINT OF
THE ROK AND JOINT BUT SEPARATE APPROACHES TO CHINESE AND SOVIETS
TO OBTAIN THEIR AGREEMENT TO CALM NORTH KOREANS. KIMURA'S
REMARKS TAKE ON ADDED SIGNIFICANCE BECAUSE, HE SAYS, PRIMIN
MIKI AGREES WITH THEM COMPLETELY. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING COURSE OF JULY 25 CALL ON FORMER FONMIN TOSHIO KIMURA
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IN CONNECTION WITH CODEL WOLFF VISIT, EMBOFF ASKED FOR KIMURA'S
REACTION TO RECENT MIYAZAWA VISIT TO SEOUL AND DECISION TO RESUME
GOJ-ROK MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

2. KIMURA RESPONDED THAT MIYAZAWA'S DECISION TO ACCEPT ROK NOTE VERBALE AS SUFFICIENT TO RESUME GOJ-ROK RELATIONS WILL BE ATTACKED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES AND SOME WITHIN LDP. KIMURA CONTINUED, HOWEVER, THAT HE FELT SUCH A COMPROMISE POLITICAL RESOLUTION OF THE IMPASSE WAS NECESSARY AND THAT HE HIMSELF HAD THOUGHT ALONG SIMILAR LINES AS FONMIN. PERSONALLY HE HAD ONLY ONE REGRET: THAT KIM DAE-JUNG'S FREEDOM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY HAD NOT BEEN A CONDITION FOR RESUMPTION OF THE MEETINGS.

3. TURNING TO THE BROADER SUBJECT OF ROK SECURITY, KIMURA ADDED THAT, ROK SECURITY WAS OF COURSE ESSENTIAL TO THAT OF JAPAN. BUT SOUTH KOREA COULD NOT BE SECURE WITHOUT PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE ENTIRE PENINSULA. THUS IT WAS A MISTAKE TO THINK ONLY IN TERMS OF ROK SECURITY AND, HE ADDED, DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S NUCLEAR COMMENTS WERE NOT HELPFUL IN THAT REGARD.

4. WHAT IS NECESSARY, KIMURA SAID, IS TO SEEK A REDUCTION OF TENSIONS IN THE ENTIRE KOREAN PENINSULA. JAPAN AND THE U.S. SHOULD DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO CLAM (OR RESTRAIN) THE ROKG. AT THE SAME TIME, THE U.S. AND JAPAN SHOULD APPROACH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA SEPARATELY TO URGE THEM TO RESTRAIN PREMIER KIM IL-SUNG. ADMITTING THERE WERE SOME POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS BECAUSE NEITHER CHINA NOR SOVIET UNION WISHED TO SEE CONFLICT ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA NOW. KIMURA ADDED HIS VIEW THAT A PRE-CONDITION OF ANY REDUCTION OF TENSION IN THE PENINSULA IS HOLDING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTUAL PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN NATION. HE DID NOT EXPECT THIS TO COME WITHIN THE NEXT DECADE OR TWO, BUT THOUGHT THAT ANY ATTEMPT AT SOLUTION WHICH DID NOT ADMIT THIS POSSIBILITY WAS DOOMED TO FAILURE.

5. KIMURA'S REMARKS TOOK ON ADDED SIGNIFICANCE WHEN HE SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS MATTER TWICE WITH PREIMIN MIKI ON THE TELEPHONE. MIKI, HE SAID, TOLD HIM HE AGREED COMPLETELY WITH KIMURA'S THINKING ON KOREA. THUS, KIMURA NOTED, HE THOUGHT MIKI WOULD BE TRAVELING TO THE U.S. WITH THIS BROAD CONCEPT OF THE KOREAN SITUATION IN MIND.
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6. COMMENT. DURING THE CONVERSATION, KIMURA ALSO SAID HE WOULD BE ATTENDING THE UNGA THIS FALL AS A SPECIAL JAPANESE AMBASSADOR, AND HOPED WHILE IN NEW YORK TO PURSUE HIS IDEA FOR REDUCING TENSIONS IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA THROUGH FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT. KIMURA IS A LONG-TIME AND SERIOUS STUDENT OF OFOREIGN AFFAIRS AND IS AN IMPORTANT POLITICIAN TO BOOT. HE IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO MANY AMERICAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE SECRETARY. USUN E EFFORTS TO CULTIVATE HIM SHOULD PAY OFF HANDSOMELY.
SHOESMITH

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